

STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY

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NEWS RELEASE

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"RESOLVE TO BE READY IN 2009"

Make Personal Emergency Preparedness a New Year's Resolution

In a few days, numerous Delawareans will make at least one New Year's resolution. Making personal emergency preparedness your New Year's resolution is important to your family's safety and is easy to keep.

"I urge all Delawareans to resolve to be ready in 2009 by making an emergency plan for their home or business, preparing an emergency supply kit and learning more about potential threats. The New Year is the perfect opportunity to begin personal emergency preparedness projects," said Delaware Safety and Homeland Security Secretary David B. Mitchell.

Keeping New Year's resolutions is challenging, but making resolutions that are simple and realistic is the key to success. The Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security provides a variety of emergency preparedness information to the general public and offers public training sessions in communities statewide to help citizens prepare for the unexpected. In addition, citizens or community groups needing assistance with personal emergency preparedness can contact the Delaware Emergency Management Agency or Delaware Citizen Corps at (302) 659-DEMA.

Emergencies can range from inconvenient to devastating, but by making this resolution and following these simple steps in advance, you will minimize the impact on you, your family and your businesses and give yourself greater peace of mind. For more information, visit www.ready.gov The Web site includes free information, checklists and guidelines about the two other key components of preparedness – developing a family emergency plan and being informed.

If you wish to take a more active role in your community's preparedness, get involved by joining or starting a Citizen Corps Council near you. Citizen Corps brings community and government leaders together to coordinate the involvement of community members and non-governmental resources in emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response, and recovery. Visit http://dema.delaware.gov/ for more information.